

AT&T Kentucky 601 W. Chestnut Street Room 407 Louisville, KY 40203 T 502-582-8219 F 502-582-1573 mary.keyer@att.com

August 31, 2010

PECEIVED

SET 0 1 2010

PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION

Mr. Jeff Derouen Executive Director Public Service Commission 211 Sower Boulevard P. O. Box 615 Frankfort, KY 40602

Re: A Certification of the Carriers Receiving Universal Service High-Cost

Support, Administrative Case 381

Dear Mr. Derouen:

The Commission's September 25, 2001, Order in Administrative Case 381 requires that recipients of Federal Universal Service High-Cost Support provide information to the Commission by September 1 of each year regarding the use of those funds. The Commission, in turn, must certify to the FCC pursuant to the state certification process set out in 47 C.F.R §54.313 that such funds are used appropriately.

Enclosed for filing are the Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Certification and Report of New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC, d/b/a AT&T Mobility (SAC 269905). Attachments A-1 and A-2 to the Certification contain confidential material, and pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001; §7, AT&T Mobility files herewith its Petition for Confidential Treatment requesting that the Commission afford confidentiality to that material. Also attached is an Affidavit of Jim Thorpe in Support of the Petition for Confidential Treatment. One proprietary copy and 10 edited copies of this material are filed with the Commission.

Should you wish any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely.

Mary K. Keyer

Enclosures



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

A CERTIFICATION OF THE CARRIERS) ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVING FEDERAL UNIVERSAL SERVICE) CASE NO. 381 HIGH COST SUPPORT)

PETITION OF NEW CINGULAR WIRELESS, LLC (SAC 269905) FOR CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT

Petitioner, New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC ("AT&T Mobility),¹ through counsel, pursuant to KRS 61.870, KRS 65.7639, and 807 KAR 5:001 Section 7, hereby submits its Petition for Confidential Treatment for AT&T Mobility. The grounds in support of this Petition are set forth below.

In this Petition, AT&T Mobility is seeking Confidential Treatment for certain information attached to its Certification and Report required by the Commission's September 24, 2001 Order herein as well as the commitments made by AT&T Mobility in its request made on February 25, 2008, to transfer the eligible telecommunication carrier ("ETC") designation from American Cellular Corporation to AT&T Mobility for certain wire centers. The Company is providing the original of its Summary of Potential

¹ On April 14, 2008, the Commission approved the request of New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC ("AT&T Mobility") to transfer the ETC designation of American Cellular Corporation ("ACC") to AT&T Mobility for those areas in which ACC was previously designated as an ETC and which the FCC did not order AT&T Mobility to divest. The Commission further ordered that ACC will remain the designated ETC in KY-6 and KY-8 until it divests itself of those areas. *In the Matter of New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC ("AT&T Mobility") Notice of Acquisition and Request for Transfer of Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Designation*, Case No. 2008-00077, Ordering Paragraph 2 and 3. Subsequently on July 15, 2009, the Commission granted the request for ACC to relinquish its ETC designation in KY-6 and KY-8 effective December 22, 2008, and the request that ACC's ETC designation for certain wire centers transfer to AT&T Mobility effective March 31, 2009.

Capital Projects for 2011 ("Confidential Attachment A-1") and a Summary of ETC Expenditures for 2009 ("Confidential Attachment A-2") as attachments to this original Petition for Confidential Treatment and marked in red ink as "Proprietary Information" on each of these documents. The redacted documents are attached to the Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Certification and Report of New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC (AT&T Mobility) (SAC 269905) filed herewith. The Company is also submitting the Affidavit of Jim Thorpe In Support of Petition for Confidential Treatment in support of this Petition (referred to hereafter as "Thorpe Affidavit").

KRS 61.870 requires that public agencies within the Commonwealth make available for inspection all public records. Certain exceptions to that general requirement are contained in KRS 61.878 and KRS 61.878(1)(c), which provide an exemption for certain commercial information. In order to qualify for an exemption under these sections, a party must demonstrate that disclosure of such commercial information would permit an unfair commercial advantage to its competitors unless the information is afforded Confidential Protection. The procedure for requesting Confidential Treatment from the Commission is outlined in 807 KAR 5:001 Section 7.

All of the information contained in Attachments A-1 and A-2 is proprietary commercial information as recognized by KRS 65.7639. Accordingly, pursuant to KRS 61.878(1)(c), AT&T Mobility requests that the Commission afford Confidential Treatment to Attachments A-1 and A-2.

These documents would provide competitors and potential competitors with important information about AT&T Mobility and its operations, which competitors would be unable to obtain otherwise. Thorpe *Affidavit*, ¶4. Armed with this information, a

competitor could develop entry, marketing, or other strategies, which would likely ensure it success in competing with AT&T Mobility. Further, in a competitive market, any information gained about a competitor can be used to that competitor's detriment.

Id. at p. 2, ¶ 5. Such an unfair competitive advantage skews the marketplace and prevents the development of true competition to the ultimate detriment of the consumer.

Disclosure of the Confidential Information contained in Attachments A-1 and A-2 would be detrimental to AT&T Mobility because it contains data that is not otherwise available to AT&T Mobility's competitors. *Id.* at pp. ¶4. The information sought to be protected herein is not generally known outside AT&T Mobility, nor is it provided to the public. *Id.* at ¶ 6. Indeed, by granting this Petition, the public interest will be served because competition will be enhanced. Finally, the Commission has recognized in its January 24, 2000, Order in Case No. 99-184 that information of this type previously submitted by American Cellular, and in its letter dated January 26, 2010 in this docket that information of this type previously submitted by AT&T Mobility, is entitled to Confidential Treatment.

Wherefore, the Company respectfully requests that the Commission issue an Order granting Confidential Treatment to AT&T Mobility Attachments A-1 and A-2 attached hereto.

Respectfully submitted this the 31 th day of August, 2010.

Mary K. Keyer

601 W. Chestnut Street, Room 407

Louisville, KY 40203

Telephone: 502-582-8219

mary.keyer@att.com

COUNSEL FOR NEW CINGULAR WIRELESS

PCS, LLC d/b/a AT&T MOBILITY

Attachment A-1

The entire document is proprietary. There is no edited version.

Attachment A-2

The entire document is proprietary. There is no edited version.

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF:		
A CERTIFICATION OF THE CARRIERS RECEIVING FEDERAL UNIVERSAL SERVICE)	ADMINISTRATIVE CASE NO. 381
HIGH-COST SUPPORT)	

AFFIDAVIT OF JAMES A. THORPE IN SUPPORT OF PETITION OF NEW CINGULAR WIRELESS PCS, LLC (SAC 269905) FOR CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT

James A. Thorpe being first duly sworn on oath, states as follows:

- 1. I currently serve as a Vice President / General Manager for AT&T Mobility

 Services LLC. In this capacity I have personal knowledge of the matters set forth in this affidavit
 and am authorized to make this affidavit on behalf of New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC ("AT&T Mobility").
- 2. AT&T Mobility is requesting confidential treatment for its proposed filing of spreadsheets describing the location of the Company's cell sites, proposed service improvement projects and the estimated locations and costs associated with such improvements (Confidential Attachments A-1 and A-2).
- 3. These Attachments contain proprietary information that would aid competitors of AT&T Mobility and such trade secret information is subject to protection from disclosure pursuant to Kentucky law. See KRS 61.870, et seq.
- 4. The specific Attachments that AT&T Mobility proposes to file would reveal proprietary information regarding the Company's network infrastructure, build out plans and operating costs. This information constitutes a trade secret because it is commercial information that, if disclosed, could cause substantial competitive harm to AT&T Mobility. This information is either not publicly available or not generally available in this format. It would be difficult (or

impossible) for someone to discover this information from other sources. If this information were available to competitors in this format, they could use it to the competitive detriment of AT&T Mobility.

- 5. Wireless providers, like AT&T Mobility, operate in a highly competitive marketplace where such proprietary information is closely guarded to ensure it is not disclosed to competitors.
- 6. This information is protected internally by the Company as proprietary information.

James A. Thorbe. Manager

STATE OF TENNESSEE COUNTY OF DAVIDSON

Subscribed and sworn to before me by James A. Thorpe as Vice President / General Manager of AT&T Mobility this 30th day of August 2010.

My commission expires: MAY 8, 2012

Notary Public

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF:		
A CERTIFICATION OF THE CARRIERS RECEIVING FEDERAL UNIVERSAL SERVICE HIGH-COST SUPPORT)))	ADMINISTRATIVE CASE NO. 381

ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER CERTIFICATION AND REPORT OF NEW CINGULAR WIRLESS PCS LLC ("AT&T MOBILITY") (SAC 269905)

CERTIFICATION OF NEW CINGULAR WIRELESS PCS, LLC ("AT&T MOBILITY") (SAC 269905)

ADMINISTRATIVE CASE NO. 381

STATE OF TENNESSEE)
) ss
COUNTY OF DAVIDSON)

The undersigned, being duly sworn, states as follows:

- 1. I currently serve as a Vice President / General Manager for AT&T Mobility LLC. I am personally familiar with the federal high-cost universal service support received by New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC ("AT&T Mobility" or "Company") and the use of these funds in Kentucky for study area code ("SAC") 269905.
- 2. On August 15, 2006, the Public Service Commission of Kentucky ("Commission") issued an Order in Case No. 2005-00130 designating American Cellular Corporation ("ACC") as an eligible telecommunications carrier ("ETC") throughout portions of the State ("ETC Designation Order") for SAC 269905. On November 15, 2007, Dobson Communications Corporation ("Dobson") became a wholly owned subsidiary of AT&T Inc. ("AT&T/Dobson Merger"). Following the AT&T/Dobson Merger, ACC remained a subsidiary of Dobson, but was converted to a limited liability company. On April 14, 2008, the Commission approved AT&T Mobility's request to transfer the ETC designation of ACC to AT&T Mobility for those areas in which ACC was previously designated as an ETC and which the FCC did not order AT&T Mobility to divest. On July 15, 2009, the Commission issued an Order granting the request for partial relinquishment of ACC's ETC designations in the areas that it was required to

¹ In the Matter of New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC ("AT&T Mobility") Notice of Acquisition and Request for Transfer of Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Designation, Case No. 2008-00077, Ordering Paragraphs 2 and 3.

divest effective December 22, 2008, and granting the request that ACC's ETC designation for certain wire centers be transferred to AT&T Mobility effective March 31, 2009.²

- 3. To enable the Company to receive federal high-cost universal service support in calendar year 2011, the Commission is required to certify the Company's use of support for SAC 269905 to the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") and the Universal Service Administrative Company ("USAC") on or before October 1, 2010. On September 24, 2001, the Commission issued an order in Administrative Case No. 381 requiring all ETCs to file with the Commission their plans for the use of any high-cost federal universal service support they receive on or before September 1 of each calendar year.
- 4. As set forth in the ACC's ETC Designation Order and as AT&T Mobility committed to in its ETC designation request, on or before September 1 of each year, the Company is further required to file the following additional information with the Commission: (a) plans for the use of federal high cost support to be received; (b) records and documentation detailing the Company's progress towards meeting its build-out plans; (c) the number of complaints per 1,000 handsets; and (d) information detailing the number of unfulfilled requests for the past year.
- 5. Based on USAC's most recent projections, the Company currently estimates that it will receive approximately \$4.3 million in federal high-cost universal service support in 2011. The actual amount of support distributed to the Company may vary from this estimate as the amount of funding AT&T Mobility receives is dependent on a number of variables, including the per line support amount of the underlying ILEC and the number of AT&T Mobility subscribers that have service in a particular wire center. Further, the FCC previously ordered that the total annual competitive ETC ("CETC") support for each state will be capped at the level of support

² See In the Matter of New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC D/B/A AT&T Mobility Notice of Acquisition and Request for Transfer of Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Designation, Case No. 2008-00077, Order (rel. July 15, 2009).

that all CETCs were eligible to receive during March 2008 on an annualized basis.³ Therefore, the amount of support that AT&T Mobility receives is dependent on the amount of support received by other CETCs in the state. Last, there are a number of matters currently pending before the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") that, if adopted, could greatly impact the amount of funding available for CETCs.

6. Accordingly, the Company hereby certifies that all federal high-cost universal service support that it receives during the 2011 calendar year will be used only for the provision, maintenance and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended pursuant to Section 254(e) of the Federal Telecommunications Act, 47 U.S.C. § 254(e).

A. <u>Service Improvement Progress Report</u>

- 7. Since its designation as an ETC, the Company has continued to identify facility construction projects intended to expand network coverage within its designated service area.

 Attached as **Confidential Attachment A-1** is a summary of the types of facilities, locations, estimated budget and deployment dates for each of these service improvements for calendar year 2011.
- 8. **Confidential Attachment A-2** explains how the Company spent the USF support that it received in 2009. There are no updates to the 2010 plan that was filed as part of the annual certification last year.
- 9. Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 254(e), the Company will continue utilize the federal high-cost universal service support it receives to maintain, upgrade and operate these network facilities consistent with the universal service objective of providing quality telecommunications services.

³ See In the Matter of High-Cost Universal Service Support, Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, Alltel Communications, Inc. et al. Petitions for Designation as Eligible Telecommunications Carriers, RCC Minnesota, Inc. and RCC Atlantic, Inc. New Hampshire ETC Designation Amendment, Order, WC Docket No. 05-337 and CC Dkt No. 96-45 (rel. May 1, 2008).

B. Requests for Service

11. AT&T Mobility committed to annually report the number of requests for service from potential customers within its designated ETC service area that were unfulfilled. The Company has adopted the calendar year as the time period for purposes of meeting the September 1 filing deadline. Accordingly, for the time period January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009, the Company experienced zero requests for service that the Company was unable to satisfy.

C. Complaints Per 1,000 Handsets

12. The Company is also required to annually report the number of complaints per 1,000 handsets. The Company has adopted the calendar year as the time period for purposes of meeting a September 1 filing deadline. For the time period January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009, the Company received 0 .10 complaints per 1,000 handsets statewide from the Commission, the Office of the Kentucky Attorney General, the Better Business Bureau or the FCC.

The matters addressed above are within my personal knowledge and are true and correct.

AT&T Mobility

Jim Thorpe Vice President/General Manager

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 30714 day of August, 2010.

Notary Public

My Commission expires

18,2012

Seal

845533

M. Commission oxposes MAY & 2012